S/N: 10/770,888 Atty Dkt No. NTS 0102 PUS

Reply to Office Action of July 13, 2005

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in

the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A reamer for enlarging a pre-existing hole in a

workpiece by rotational and axial cutting, the reamer comprising:

a longitudinal shank for supporting a body of a the reamer for enlarging a pre-

existing hole in a workpiece by rotation and for axial movement relative to the workpiece in

a first hand rotational direction; and

a longitudinal body extending axially from the shank, the body having at least

one first flute formed therein, providing at least one first flute cutting edge in a distal end of

the body for imparting a first cutting operation to the workpiece, the body having at least one

helical flute formed therein at an angle relative to an axis of rotation that is greater than that

of the at least one first flute, the at least one helical flute being formed in a second hand

rotational direction opposite to the first hand rotational direction so that cutting debris is

advanced ahead of the at least one helical flute, the at least one helical flute providing at least

one helical flute cutting edge in the body distal end, radially spaced apart from the at least one

first flute cutting edge, for imparting a helical cutting operation to the workpiece so that at least

a leading portion of the at least one first flute and the at least one helical flute cutting edges

generally lie in a common radial plane;

wherein the at least one first flute cutting edge and the at least one helical flute

cutting edge concurrently and collectively perform the first and helical cutting operations to

a sculpture surface of the workpiece, thereby improving tolerances of the cutting operations,

varying the loads imparted to the workpiece and the reamer, and reducing heat generated

between the workpiece and the reamer.

2. (Original) The reamer of claim 1 wherein the at least one first flute is

further defined as at least one straight flute.

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3. (Original) The reamer of claim 1 wherein the at least one first flute cutting edge is further defined as at least one straight flute cutting edge.

- 4. (Original) The reamer of claim 1 wherein a longitudinal dimension between the at least one first flute cutting edge and the at least one helical flute cutting edge is less than ten percent of an overall transverse dimension of the reamer body.
- 5. (Original) The reamer of claim 1 wherein the body is generally cylindrical.
- 6. (Original) The reamer of claim 1 wherein the body includes at least one cylindrical margin formed thereabout for providing bearing support to the reamer within the hole being formed.
- 7. (Original) The reamer of claim 1 wherein the longitudinal body has an imaginary plane extending axially through the axis of rotation, and the at least one first flute is formed ahead of the imaginary plane in the first hand rotational direction thereby providing a negative rake angle to the at least one first flute cutting edge.
- 8. (Original) The reamer of claim 1 wherein the longitudinal body has an imaginary plane extending axially through the axis of rotation, and the at least one helical flute is formed ahead of the imaginary plane in the first hand rotational direction thereby providing a negative rake angle to the at least one helical flute cutting edge.
- 9. (Original) The reamer of claim 1 wherein the body includes at least one longitudinal margin generally aligned with the at least one first flute for providing bearing support to the reamer within the hole being formed.

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10. (Original) The reamer of claim 1 wherein the body includes at least one

helical margin generally aligned with the at least one helical flute for providing bearing support

to the reamer within the hole being formed.

11. (Original) The reamer of claim 1 wherein the body further includes at

least one gash formed in the body distal end extending outwardly in relation to an axis of

rotation and intersecting the at least one first flute and the at least one helical flute for assisting

removal of debris from the at least one helical flute cutting edge.

12. (Original) The reamer of claim 1 wherein the shank includes an ingress

port for receiving a cutting fluid and for transmitting the cutting fluid through a fluid passage,

and the body includes at least one egress port connected to the fluid passage and formed within

either of the at least one first flute and the at least one helical flute for conveying the cutting

fluid to the associated cutting edge and the sculpture surface defined within the workpiece.

13. (Original) The reamer of claim 1 wherein the body further includes at

least one relief surface formed at least partially along the at least one helical flute cutting edge,

the at least one relief surface having a first relief angle which is inclined in relation to a radial

plane and a direction of cutting edge travel, the body including at least one other relief surface

formed at least partially along the at least one first flute cutting edge, the at least one other

relief surface having a second relief angle that is less than the first relief angle.

14. (Original) The reamer of claim 1 wherein the at least one first flute

cutting edge comprises a leading edge inclined in relation to a radial plane.

15. (Original) The reamer of claim 1 further comprising a pilot extending

axially forward from the body distal end, the pilot being sized to be received within the pre-

existing hole to provide bearing support to reamer within the hole being formed.

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16. (Original) The reamer of claim 1 wherein the at least one first flute

cutting edge comprises an end cutting edge formed at an intersection of the at least one first

flute and the distal end of the body, and a leading edge inclined in relation to a radial plane.

17. (Currently Amended) The reamer of claim 1 wherein the body further

includes at least one primary relief surface formed along the at least one primary first flute

cutting edge having a primary relief angle.

18. (Currently Amended) The reamer of claim 17 wherein the body further

includes at least one secondary relief surface formed along the at least one primary relief

surface spaced apart from the at least one primary first flute cutting edge having a secondary

relief angle that is greater than the primary relief angle.

19. (Original) The reamer of claim 1 wherein the at least one first flute

further comprises an array of first flutes.

20. (Original) The reamer of claim 19 wherein the array of first flutes has

an angular spacing tolerance between sequential first flutes that is equal to or less than four

radial quadrants divided by twice the number of first flutes in the array in order to vary the

loads imparted to the workpiece and the reamer.

21. (Original) The reamer of claim 1 wherein the at least one helical flute

further comprises an array of helical flutes.

22. (Original) The reamer of claim 21 wherein the array of helical flutes has

an angular spacing tolerance between sequential helical flutes that is equal to or less than four

radial quadrants divided by twice the number of helical flutes in the array in order to vary the

loads imparted to the workpiece and the reamer.

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23. (Original) The reamer of claim 1 wherein the at least one first flute further comprises an array of first flutes and the at least one helical flute further comprises an array of helical flutes.

- 24. (Original) The reamer of claim 23 wherein the number of first flutes in the first flute array is equal to the number of helical flutes in the helical flute array.
- 25. (Original) The reamer of claim 23 wherein the number of first flutes is equal to three.
- 26. (Original) The reamer of claim 23 wherein the number of first flutes is equal to five.
- 27. (Original) The reamer of claim 23 wherein each first flute cutting edge is radially spaced apart from each helical flute cutting edge at the reamer body distal end.
- 28. (Currently Amended) A reamer for enlarging a pre-existing hole in a workpiece by rotational and axial cutting, the reamer comprising:

a longitudinal shank for supporting a body of <u>a the</u> reamer for <u>enlarging a pre-</u> <u>existing hole in a workpiece by rotation and for axial movement relative to the workpiece in</u> a first hand rotational direction; and

a longitudinal body extending axially from the shank, the body having at least one first flute formed therein, providing at least one first flute cutting edge in a distal end of the body for imparting a first cutting operation to the workpiece, the body having at least one helical flute formed therein in a second hand rotational direction opposite to the first hand rotational direction so that cutting debris is advanced ahead of the at least one helical flute, the at least one helical flute being non-intersecting with the at least one first flute at the body distal end, the at least one helical flute providing at least one helical flute cutting edge in the body distal end, radially spaced apart from the at least one first flute, for imparting a helical cutting operation to the workpiece;

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wherein the at least one first flute cutting edge and the at least one helical flute cutting edge concurrently and collectively perform the first and helical cutting operations to a sculpture surface of the workpiece, thereby improving tolerances of the cutting operations, varying the loads imparted to the workpiece and the reamer and reducing heat generated between the workpiece and the reamer.

29. (Original) A method for rearning a pre-existing hole, the method comprising the steps of:

providing a reamer having at least one first flute with at least one first flute cutting edge in a distal end of the reamer, the reamer having at least one helical flute formed therein canted relative to the at least one first flute, with at least one helical flute cutting edge in the distal end of the reamer;

rotating one of the reamer or a workpiece; and

translating one of the reamer or the workpiece towards another so that the reamer is fed into the pre-existing hole, and the at least one first flute cutting edge and the at least one helical flute cutting edge concurrently and collectively provide cutting operations to a sculpture surface formed within the pre-existing hole.